

The Chickasha Daily Express.

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WEEKLY EXPRESS
Established 1892.

For Chickasha First; The Indian

territory Second; The World After.

DAILY EXPRESS
Established January 1, 1900

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E. HAMILTON, E. C.
Ven. Master
C. M. Fochelmer, Secy.

CHICKASHA CHAPTER, No. 17. R. A. M.



Meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month.

J. WILLIAM DEWEY, E. P.

A. S. GILKEY, Secretary.

CHICKASHA LODGE NO. 28. I. O. O. F.



Meets Tuesday nights each month.

A. BAIGHT, N. G.

EVERGREEN REBEKAH LODGE NO. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights.

ETNA SLOW, N.

AICLE HARTER, Sec'y.

MODERN WOODMEN

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Statehood for Oklahoma.

A statehood convention for Oklahoma and the Indian territory will be held at South McAlester next month. The delegates will discuss plans to secure statehood from congress at as early a date as possible. Similar conventions have been held before, but have come to nothing, owing to the hostility of Congress. Politics has affected the situation, as the Republicans have feared to admit another state which might prove Democratic.

There are two parties in the advocacy of statehood. One favors the union of the two territories and their admission as a single state. The other would admit them separately. In the Indian territory, where the double statehood idea is strong, it is argued that Oklahoma already has several public buildings and that she would probably secure the capital under single statehood. There is also the question whether the Oklahoma politicians, with their superior experience and organization, might not control the official positions of the new state. Oklahoma's territorial debt is given as another reason why the Indian territory should hold aloof.

From Oklahoma's standpoint double statehood would be desirable, because of the fact that it already has erected buildings for its higher schools, while the Indian territory is without such structures except for Indians. Republicans point out the fact, too, that their small majority in Oklahoma would be a powerful factor in the democratic vote of the Indian territory if the two were consolidated. The presence of 50,000 Indians in the Eastern territory is another disturbing element.

These arguments fail to take account of the advantages to accrue from the formation of single, powerful state, advocates of singlehood declare. The last census credits Oklahoma with 399,245 and the Indian territory with 391,960 inhabitants, exclusive of Indians. In area each territory is about half as large as Missouri. After the admission of Montana, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming, Congress could not consistently refuse to admit two more states,

each with a larger population than any of the four just mentioned. Yet it would seem to admit them separately would be possible. Co their area is only as large as Missouri's—not an unwelcome prospect. Separate, each would have a full set of state officers and erect all necessary buildings. As one state, it is pointed out that the expenses of each could be nearly cut in two. The very fact that the new state had a area of 70,000 square miles and population of 70,000—nearly as large as Nebraska's—would be an advertisement for it throughout the country. The diversity of territory and the probable lightness of taxes would attract capital.

Whatever the decision be about single or double statehood, it is apparent that congress cannot well ignore the wishes of the people for a much longer time. In wealth and population they are entitled to exchange the territorial form of government for that of the state.—K. C. Star.

Oklahoma with a population of 399,245 has more people than the following states as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Delaware..... | 184,735. |
| Idaho..... | 161,771. |
| Montana..... | 243,288. |
| Nevada..... | 42,334. |
| North Dakota..... | 310,040. |
| Utah..... | 276,565. |
| Vermont..... | 353,641. |
| Wyoming..... | 92,531. |

Why then should congress refuse Oklahoma statehood. It has every qualification in population, progressiveness—and will make a great effort this winter for admission and ought to get it.

The Indian territory, with only a few thousand less population, with nearly as much wealth, with equal intelligence, with resources the equal if not superior to Oklahoma, is its equal in all respects must stand one side and await future development.

There is a probability that Oklahoma may be denied statehood on the fact that the two territories should come in as one state. No other reason can be vindicated. There is a sentiment to allow Oklahoma and the Indian Territory statehood with all the evils

surrounding the Indian territory, and the Indian territory will sleep on its best opportunity if it fails to take up the question at this time and fight for a night it is entitled to and will have to wait years for if not secured at this time. It should not be a political question. Let us fight for a right of statehood now and fight over politics after.

HARMONY.

Being present at the death-bed of little Claude Vaughan, and noting the perfect harmony that existed throughout that refined household, and the devotion of that most kind and tender father, I am impressed to write the following verse:

The flowers that's fairest and sweetest
That perfume the golden morn;
Their loveliness seems the fleetest,
Yields first to the winter's storm.

In our garden sweet with posies,
There stood one of brightest hue—
The essence of eternal goodness—
Humble, yet brave and true.

On the troubled waves of conflict,
Or when kissed by the dews of morn;
His presence gave us gladness;
His absence made us mourn.

Enraptured with art and music,
He would soar on his balmy wings,
As he drew a bow of finished power
Across the trembling strings.

But there's a painful discord in our band—
The absence of sweet strains,
The organ pleads for his skillful hand—
Only groans to tell its pains.

There's a vacant place—a vacant chair,
And anguish in each and heart,
And every thought gives birth to tears:
Sad memory that shall never depart.

Yet love is the only bow
That illumines death's lowering cloud;
It exalts what fate lays low—
Drives fear from the solemn shroud.

And perhaps the midnight here,
Is some where else a dawn—
He lives in a higher sphere—
He performs a brighter morn.

We know from the tree of life,
The buds and blossoms fall—
The withered and the fallen
In the common bed of earth.

The youth and sage repose—
Mysteries is the birth,
As mysterious the repose.

Then, oh, how we love to think
Of our Claude, in a heavenly band,
On the daisy sprinkled brink
Mid the applause of the great and grand.

Then let us all some day,
Touch upon that shore and stand
After crossing the tempestuous waves,
We will shake little Claude's hand.
Antioch, I. T. —DR. W. M. DEVINE.

How can Mr. Bryan become a Presbyterian clergyman when it is required of the Calvinists to believe in election?

She—Well, the great event is over. He—Do you mean the election, or have you made up your mind about that hat?

DON'T BLAME THE COOK

If the biscuits are not good;
It's all in the Flour.

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